Listing of the Claims:

The following is a complete listing of all the claims in the application, with an indication of the status of each:

1. (Currently amended) A messaging system comprising:

an interactive system for production and interchange of messages by users over a network;

a time synchronizer for time stamping messages;

an automated topic separator receiving user messages and separating messages according to different topics, wherein the automated topic separator includes a language-model topic classifier that estimates a topic of the user messages and/or parts of the user messages based, at least in part, on their respective word content, and a final topic separator which separates messages or parts of messages based on a spacing between their respective estimated topics and the difference between their respective ~~according to the words used in the messages and which considers~~ time stampings, such that messages and parts of messages are separated into different topics when said spacing between their estimated topics exceeds a threshold, the threshold being based, at least in part, on the difference between their respective time stampings, and wherein the threshold, at least in part, is made smaller as said difference increases;

a user interface, coupled to said topic separator, for representing in a distinct way parts of messages that were separated by said topic separator, wherein said user interface displays at least one of messages in windows according to topic, and messages in different colors according to topic, and wherein the user interface enables a subgroup of users to conduct a messaging session separate from other users, within a framework of an ongoing session or topic.

Claims 2-4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) The messaging system of ~~as in~~ claim 1, further comprising a security system for verifying ~~to verify~~ a user's identity.

6. (Currently Amended) The messaging system of ~~as in~~ claim 5, wherein said security system includes a database of questions from which random questions are posed to a user and whereby verification of validity of answers to posed questions is done by users of the system.

7. (Currently Amended) The messaging system of ~~as in~~ claim 5, wherein said security system includes a biometric module for verification of a user's identity.

8. (Currently amended) A method of conducting a messaging session at a user's computer between two or more users over a network comprising the steps of:

receiving a message over the network from a user;

automatically estimating ~~identifying~~ a topic of the received message based on words ~~used~~ in the message ~~and considering a time when the message is received~~;

determining if a topic of the message is the same as a previous message, has changed from the ~~a~~ previous message to a previous topic, or is a new topic, based on the difference between the estimated topic of the message and the estimated topic of the previous message, and the difference between their respective time stampings, such that the threshold difference between their respective estimated topics at which the message is determined to be the same topic as the previous message changes with respect to the difference between their respective time stampings;

and automatically

if a new topic, opening a new window to display the received message,

if a same topic as said previous message, displaying the message in a currently opened window, and

if a changed topic displaying the received message in a previously opened window, and

wherein a subgroup of users comprising at least two users conducts a messaging session separately from other users.

Claims 9-11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~conducting a messaging session recited in~~ claim 8, further comprising ~~the step of~~ checking a user's identity.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~conducting a messaging session recited in~~ claim 12, wherein said ~~the step of~~ checking a user's identity comprises ~~the steps of~~ asking the user random questions and evaluating the user's answers.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~conducting a messaging session recited in~~ claim 13, wherein said ~~the step of~~ evaluating the user's answers includes receiving a verification input from ~~is performed by~~ another user.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~conducting a messaging session recited in~~ claim 12, wherein said ~~the step of~~ checking a user's identity includes detecting user ~~is performed using~~ biometrics data and comparing the detected data against a stored data.

Claims 16-17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) The messaging system of ~~as in~~ claim 1, wherein the automated topic separator generates a query data indicative of no topic being identifiable for a message, based on an output of the language model classifier or the time stamp of the message, and wherein the user interface, in

response to said query data, displays a query message to at least one user ~~operable for~~ indicating to the user that ~~when~~ the topic of the ~~a~~ message can not be decided by the topic separator.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~conducting a messaging session recited in~~ claim 8, wherein the automatically estimating the topic of the received message generates a query data if the topic can not be estimated to a predetermined level ~~decided~~, and further comprising ~~the step of indicating~~ communicating a query signal to the user in response to said query data ~~that the topic of the received message could not be decided~~.